



MI-CW4109

# Michigan Crop Weather

October 13, 2009

## Cold and Wet

Three days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending October 11, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.61 inch in the west central Lower Peninsula to 1.89 inches in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 10 degrees below normal in the western Upper Peninsula to 8 degrees below normal in the west central and southwest Lower Peninsula. Cold temperatures, scattered rainfall, and high winds continued to hinder fieldwork. The additional rainfall was conducive to sugarbeet harvest and ground preparation, however harvest progress was limited. Growers await the arrival of warmer temperatures to finish harvesting crops for the season.

## Field Crops

Precipitation, cold temperatures, and windy conditions hindered fieldwork. Frost, throughout much of the State, assisted crops with drying down but ensured an end to the growing season for others. **Wheat** planting had ceased due to the late harvest of soybeans and rains. Growers were waiting for **corn** to fully mature to harvest; drying down will be slow due to tightly closed husks. In the northeast, corn for silage harvest continued, but was nearing completion in other areas. **Soybeans** were drying slowly. **Alfalfa** harvest was at a standstill. A farmer in the south central said, "Giving up on cutting more hay, too wet and no drying in sight." Cold temperatures were good for the **sugarbeet** crop. Piling will be considered later in the week; however this will be sooner than what was originally anticipated. The moisture was good for harvesting beets, but additional rainfall will impede harvesting. **Dry bean** harvest was challenging due to the abundance of moisture.

Soil moisture for week ending 10/11/09

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	0	3	68	29
Subsoil	1	13	73	13

Crop condition for week ending 10/11/09

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	2	12	29	46	11
Corn	5	12	25	44	14
Dry beans	10	17	33	28	12
Pasture	2	18	33	34	13
Soybeans	3	13	32	40	12

## Fruit

Harvest of early **apple** varieties was completed in the southwest. Growers reported harvesting a heavy crop of Golden Delicious apples. In the west central, harvest of Jonagold, Jonathan, and Red Delicious apples continued. Growers in the east were picking Golden Delicious and spot picking Empire varieties. In the Grand Rapids area, growers were picking Jonagold, Golden Delicious, and Jonathan apples varieties. Harvest of Concord **grapes** began in the southwest, where the recent weather conditions have delayed sugar accumulation.

## Vegetables

Harvest of cool season crops, including **cabbage**, **broccoli**, and **cauliflower** continued on a limited basis this week, but was wrapping up for most growers. In the southeast, **potato** harvest was nearing completion; a number of potato growers reported excellent yields and quality. Also in the southeast, **pumpkin** and **winter squash** harvests were finished, and **tomato** harvest was essentially complete. In the southwest, scattered frosts throughout the week and a hard freeze on October 11 brought warm season vegetable production to an end. Many vegetable producers kept busy this week preparing fields for winter cover crops and removing stakes, plastic row covers, and drip tape.

Crop progress for week ending 10/11/09

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, third cutting	90	87	91	95
All hay, fourth cutting	45	42	43	52
Apples, harvested	50	39	58	70
Corn, dent	94	90	100	99
Corn, mature	61	38	86	87
Corn, harvested	3	2	14	18
Corn silage, harvested	83	59	95	96
Dry beans, harvested	67	57	73	87
Potatoes, harvested	62	49	67	68
Soybeans, dropping leaves	93	78	96	95
Soybeans, harvested	7	3	39	43
Sugarbeets, harvested	15	11	14	13
Winter wheat, planted	35	27	52	61
Winter wheat, emerged	19	10	14	21

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 10/12/09 <sup>1</sup>

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days <sup>2</sup>			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2009	2008	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	54	25		1,845	1,970		1.40	2.66	4.24	16.10		
Marquette	50	23		1,701	1,840		1.40	2.66	4.24	18.15		
Stephenson	56	24		2,097	2,286		1.94	3.96	5.62	18.78		
Western UP	56	21	-10	1,829	1,925	1,972	1.47	2.63	4.09	17.13	20.93	2.57
Cornell	59	25		1,894	2,154		1.78	2.66	4.24	16.43		
Sault St Marie	57	29		1,726	1,872		1.42	2.40	2.84	16.05		
Eastern UP	59	22	-7	1,705	1,881	1,740	1.89	2.82	4.36	18.54	19.96	2.57
Beulah	56	30		2,142	2,490		0.97	1.89	3.67	21.25		
Lake City	57	25		2,029	2,328		0.86	1.59	4.91	22.30		
Old Mission	56	29		2,028	2,375		1.19	2.09	4.02	16.36		
Pellston	57	25		1,905	2,202		1.12	2.55	4.14	16.52		
Northwest	57	25	-7	1,977	2,284	2,260	1.03	2.11	4.36	17.46	19.21	2.75
Alpena	62	27		2,022	2,298		1.01	1.99	4.67	23.68		
Houghton Lake	57	27		2,051	2,372		0.70	1.23	3.91	20.07		
Rogers City	60	27		1,980	2,275		0.83	1.70	3.72	24.47		
Northeast	62	24	-7	2,011	2,301	2,183	0.86	1.57	4.00	21.64	18.95	2.40
Fremont	57	24		2,333	2,581		0.83	1.69	4.67	19.61		
Hart	57	27		2,195	2,471		0.56	1.05	2.89	19.71		
Muskegon	59	33		2,547	2,638		0.80	1.58	4.14	18.63		
West Central	59	24	-8	2,315	2,528	2,473	0.61	1.20	3.23	19.40	19.26	2.94
Alma	60	27		2,388	2,695		0.93	1.62	2.50	21.61		
Big Rapids	59	25		2,208	2,543		0.93	1.44	2.18	22.24		
Central	60	25	-7	2,301	2,605	2,554	0.81	1.40	2.40	20.31	19.98	2.59
Bad Axe	64	28		2,245	2,591		1.10	1.59	3.03	19.27		
Pigeon	64	29		2,213	2,497		1.00	1.48	2.79	19.44		
Saginaw	62	26		2,463	2,776		0.75	1.28	2.35	18.27		
Standish	63	26		2,192	2,443		0.92	1.41	3.34	18.82		
East Central	64	26	-7	2,237	2,601	2,569	1.00	1.58	3.01	19.83	17.78	2.41
Fennville	59	31		2,412	2,651		1.04	3.49	4.40	23.32		
Grand Rapids	61	28		2,680	2,986		1.23	1.93	3.44	24.75		
Holland	60	33		2,777	3,026		1.01	4.15	5.53	36.55		
South Bend, IN	61	30		2,829	3,108		0.84	2.55	2.91	24.64		
Watervliet	60	29		2,612	2,846		0.87	2.79	4.01	22.01		
Southwest	64	27	-8	2,624	2,869	2,804	0.83	2.66	3.92	23.35	20.71	2.99
Belding	58	25		2,349	2,649		1.00	1.84	3.07	21.51		
Coldwater	60	29		2,707	2,868		0.90	2.39	3.00	20.80		
Lansing	61	28		2,533	2,872		0.84	1.36	2.04	26.32		
South Central	62	25	-7	2,481	2,799	2,753	0.96	1.90	2.96	22.96	20.09	2.41
Detroit	61	33		2,912	3,194		1.02	1.77	2.68	21.73		
Flint	61	27		2,490	2,904		0.75	1.19	2.34	24.50		
Romeo	59	28		2,492	2,773		0.75	1.51	2.94	20.97		
Tipton	60	32		2,593	2,886		1.00	3.44	4.66	22.77		
Toledo, OH	60	31		2,903	3,174		1.13	3.70	4.77	23.20		
Southeast	64	25	-7	2,611	2,955	2,751	0.89	1.93	2.86	20.92	18.99	2.33

<sup>1</sup> Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

<sup>2</sup> Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.